

# Jefferson Park Expansion

## Public Meeting Minutes

**Date: Tuesday December 1, 2009**

**Place: Jefferson Park Community Center**

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### 1.1 Introduction:

A master plan for Jefferson Park was developed in 2002 as a guide for future phases of development and last year the community participated in prioritizing elements for the park development. The Pro Parks Levy and the new Parks and Green Spaces Levy together provide \$15.4 million to implement the community vision for this park. This is the first of three meetings that will provide updates on current construction and gather public input on the design for future phases of implementing the park masterplan.

### 1.2 Phase I:

Jefferson Park Expansion (Funded by the 2000 Pro-Parks Levy)

- Masterplan Overview (The Berger Partnership):
- Status of Current Construction (Parks)
  - (a) Great bids per economic trend
  - (b) Inclusion of elements previously value engineered out of project
  - (c) Construction is over 6 months ahead of schedule
  - (d) Majority of disturbed areas have been seeded and have sprouted
  - (e) Working from North end to South. Currently placing irrigation over the Res. Lid.
- Additional elements
  - (a) Additional Basketball court and Parking at Community Center
  - (b) Park service road reconfiguration
  - (c) Promenade connection between Jefferson Park and Jefferson Playfield
  - (d) Cricket pitch on reservoir lid
  - (e) Reservoir gatehouse (Andy Sheffer, Seattle Parks)
    - SPU plans to demolish gatehouse – out of service since 2007
    - No functional purpose for city
    - Eliminate safety and security risks. Ongoing maintenance costs
    - Parks is developing plan to extend central plaza into this area
    - Inclusion of historic elements of gate house into central project (i.e. gate valve operator wheels)
    - We have a representative from SPU to answer any questions related to this: Henry Tang

#### Comments:

**PUMPHOUSE:** Save the pumphouse/gatehouse! Why not leave it in place? Is it historic? What is its age? Can we save some features? Have you checked the historic inventory of historic structures in park? Parks would like to save some of the historic elements like the giant wheel operators that turned the valves and incorporate them into a plaza in the same location. We could also make some kind of gesture reflecting the outline of the building with a seatwall.

**WATER QUALITY BLDG :** SPU told the community that this facility could be used as a community art center. Parks to immediately notify SPU of this comment.

**PARK ACCESS:** Where and how many access points will there be along Beacon, Spokane and 15<sup>th</sup>? Half dozen access points off of Beacon. One access point off of Spokane. One access point off of 15<sup>th</sup>. Spokane Street needs another pedestrian crossing other than at Beacon. Crosswalks that are not located at four way vehicular intersections are dangerous. 15<sup>th</sup> Street

needs a sidewalk and Streetscape. What about a pedestrian overpass over 15<sup>th</sup>? Pedestrian overpasses are extremely expensive. One was identified in the master plan over Spokane Street, but is not being constructed in phase 1 or 2 due to cost of the structure. You need to read the current DPD Neighborhood Plan. Hasn't been finalized yet.

BIKE PARKING: Where and how many biking parking areas will there be in the park? Comfort Station, New Play area, Overlook, each one holds six bikes.

SPU RES. CAGES: Are those ugly cages with barbed wire around the top really going to stay in place after the park opens? Cal Anderson doesn't have these. Why does a park in the South deserve these? This is an equity issue. This could always be addressed with additional art funding at a future date.

### 1.3 Future Phases

(Funded by the 2000 Pro-Parks Levy Opportunity Fund and the 2008 Parks and Green Spaces Levy)

- Beacon Mountain (SvR Design)

Comments:

FUNDING: Is this project funded through construction? Yes this project is fully funded through construction with an anticipated construction contract amount (including WSST) of 1.3 million.

SCHEDULE: Construction to occur in Fall 2010-2011.

- Jefferson Playfield Improvements (Andy Sheffer, Seattle Parks)

(a) Synthetic fields with lighting

(b) Users may include: Soccer, Ultimate Frisbee, Football, Baseball, and potentially Lacrosse

(c) Samoan Cricket to be moved to the center of the Res. Lid

(d) Constraints – Space (square footage) and Budget.

(e) Interested parties – Please sign up at back of room to join community design committee.

Comments:

CRICKET: How are you going to control the Cricket balls so that they do not interfere with pedestrian circulation? The cricket user groups will have to place barricades on the paths warning pedestrians when there is a game in session. The new area will be twice the size as the old. There are so many spectators that most likely the spectators would stop balls before they reached the pedestrian paths.

TRACK: This might be a useful element around the perimeter of the fields. It is difficult to configure a regulation track around a single field while accommodating other fields in the same space. Maybe you could provide a straightaway for sprints? That is a good idea and we will look into it.

ULTIMATE : Would like two fields. 60 children play at a time, two fields are needed. Would like fields lined for Ultimate. Concerned about number of lines; integrity of carpets; tick mark for Ultimate or maybe Lacrosse.

SURFACE: It is not live ? Any studies as to how this effects the environment? Native birds need natural turf. Loss for birds. 12 acres of lawn on lid. There is a national trend to tear out synthetic surfacing (i.e. New York). Parks is undergoing a study of the stormwater that is conveyed off their existing synthetic fields to better determine the environmental effects.

SYNTHETIC SURFACE: asset to neighborhood., Kids in south end need soccer fields. This is a complex balance. Each soccer field accommodates two ultimate fields. Want to get maximum use – we want lights.

SPORTSFIELD DEMAND– How is the total number of fields and needs figured out? Is every community examined from a G.I.S. standpoint? Based on geographical need – is there a plan or study. Fields locations are determined by local scheduling needs and geography.

FIELD LIGHTING: The fields will be lit at night to maximize scheduling time.

FIELD USE: Want to address – regional fields – we can't we keep games local

Ed: until age of nine – play in community

- Jefferson Skatepark (Andy Sheffer, Seattle Parks)
  - (a) \$1,000,000 total project cost.
  - (b) Generous donation of \$10,000 from Sub pop records to contribute toward planning and design.
  - (c) Location: Great connection to community center, parking, and basketball
  - (d) Will work closely with citywide skatepark plan
  - (e) Minimum of 20,000 sf available...will ideally accommodate up to 30 skaters at varying skill levels.

Comments:

SKATEPARK needs lights. Who keeps the project on task? Needs local support

SCHEDULE: Construction dates: Planning 2010, Construction 2011

SIZE: What will drive the size – 20 – 30? Buffer constraints including the golf driving range and reservoir. There is also buried infrastructure like the high voltage primary electrical service.

Elements like the skateboard park need to be well integrated and fit into the park

Lighting – incorporate more community friendly lighting at driving range that will help light the skatepark. Visit the golf master plan for future lighting projects. Can we integrate sheltered skatepark? Skill level? = all skill levels.

For the latest updates on the Jefferson Skatepark

visit.....<http://www.skatepark.org/forum/viewtopic.php?t=9635>

#### Other Resources:

<http://www.skatepark.org/forum/viewtopic.php?t=9635>

<http://publicskateparkguide.org/>

<http://www.skatepark.org/2009-skatepark-presentation.html>

[http://seattleskateparks.org/?page\\_id=2](http://seattleskateparks.org/?page_id=2)

<http://www.parents4sk8parks.org/pdf/20071031FinalJohnCarrDissertation.pdf>

Freedom of Space excerpt: [http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=qK\\_dOZYM1g](http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=qK_dOZYM1g)

Faces of Ballard playlist: [http://www.youtube.com/view\\_play\\_list?p=B11AB3834D941DD6](http://www.youtube.com/view_play_list?p=B11AB3834D941DD6)

#### 1.4 Conclusion:

At the second meeting refined designs will be presented and additional comment collected. The final designs will be presented at the third meeting. Parks encourages you to come and participate in the planning of this great new park and gathering space for your community. For additional information please visit: <http://seattle.gov/parks/ProParks/projects/JeffersonPark.htm> or contact Andy Sheffer at [andy.sheffer@seattle.gov](mailto:andy.sheffer@seattle.gov) or 206-684-7041

